

The background of the entire cover is a repeating geometric pattern. It consists of a grid of squares, each of which is further divided into four triangles by a diagonal line from the top-left to the bottom-right. The triangles are colored in a checkerboard fashion: green, white, green, white, and so on. This creates a dense, textured effect across the entire surface.

LIBERAL POLICY FOR WOMEN

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION.

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POINTS OF LIBERAL POLICY FOR WOMEN.

THERE are two clear aims in the Liberal Policy to be placed before men and women in this election:—

To secure Peace abroad.

To conquer Unemployment at home.

Peace and Disarmament

Without Peace, our welfare, our happiness and even our lives themselves, will cease to exist for another war may see the extinction of western civilization.

The great risk is that war may come upon us suddenly before we grasp how great the danger is. It is only by perfecting the machinery for settlement by peaceful means that we can hope to protect ourselves from the sudden blaze of war.

LIBERAL POLICY.

Liberals will therefore:—

(1) Give wholehearted effective support to the League of Nations, and endeavour to enlarge its scope and power until it shall include all nations.

(2) Sign immediately the undertaking framed by the League of Nations, known as the Optional Clause, to refer all disputes of a legal character to the League's Court of Justice at the Hague.

The Government have signed with reservations the Kellogg Pact, "for the renunciation of war as a national policy." This seems a great step, but it has yet to be made a reality. If nations are not to settle their disputes by war they must provide other means of settlement. Liberals are determined, by signing the Optional Clause, to pledge themselves to use such means.

(3) Sign arbitration treaties with any nation pledging Great Britain to settle all other classes of disputes by peaceful means.

(4) In co-operation with other nations, immediately undertake plans for the reduction of armaments.

Great Britain is pledged to this by our word given in the Treaty of Versailles; yet to-day English men and women are spending a hundred million pounds on preparations which, if war should break out, would probably in any event, be useless for our protection. We believe in the words of Lord Cecil, *"that a general reduction and limitation of armaments is essential to the peace of the world, and on that peace depends not only the existence of the British Empire, but even that of European civilisation itself."*

(5) Troops must be immediately withdrawn from the Rhineland.

No Locarno can end the war-like spirit abroad so long as a hostile army is occupying the soil of Germany in time of peace.

(6) A Liberal Government will work strenuously for the reduction of trade barriers.

The peace of the world will never be secure until Governments realise that commerce between nations should be organised on a basis for their mutual benefit instead of 'in groups devoted to their mutual injury.'

CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

The Conservative Party as judged by its action pays but lip service to the League of Nations.

(a) **They have failed to give any schemes for assisting the League in its work.**

(b) **Have resisted the suggestions submitted by the League to bring about security, arbitration and disarmament.**

(c) **Have failed to sign the Optional Clause.**

The Government have signed with reservations the Kellogg Pact, "for the renunciation of war as a national policy." This seems a great step, but it has yet to be made a reality. If nations are not to settle their disputes by war they must provide other means of settlement. Liberals are determined, by signing the Optional Clause, to pledge themselves to use such means.

(d) **Attempted to cripple the League by proposing a reduction of £40,000 in its budget at the Assembly in 1928.**

Great Britain is only asked to pay annually just over £100,000 towards the League and the maintenance of Peace. Our present expenditure on armaments, including payment of debt, is 114 millions annually.

The cause of disarmament also, has been hindered by Conservative actions:—

(a) **by failing to enter into Treaties of Arbitration;**

(b) by the break-down of the Naval Disarmament Conference, as a result of which America is entering on the construction of 15 new cruisers.

(c) by proposing to enter into an agreement with France to allow her to retain unlimited her gigantic army of reservists.

THE LABOUR PARTY.

Many members of the Labour Party are sincere advocates for international peace. But what happened when the Labour Party was in office in 1924? One of their first Acts was to start building five new cruisers. They also increased expenditure on armaments by nine million pounds. In defending their policy of "cruiser building" Labour M.P.'s said it was to give work to men in the dockyards; surely a dangerous precedent!

THE LIBERAL PARTY.

"You must work for peace as you would work for war. Take the same risks for peace as we took for war. To induce this country to take that stand and set that example is going to be the greatest, the noblest, the most sacred task that Liberalism has ever set its heart and mind upon. By this supreme effort of its glorious career, it will achieve its greatest triumph for humanity."

(Mr. Lloyd George, October 12th, 1928)

Unemployment

THE LIBERAL MESSAGE.

WORK AND WAGES.

"For the men whose spirits are being crushed under the burden of enforced idleness, for the women whose privations have added to the suffering of the men, for the youth that sees before it only a vista of idle years."

(Mr. Lloyd George, April 8th, 1929).

LIBERAL POLICY.

Liberals, recognising that unemployment is a tragic fact that *has* occurred, are determined to relieve it by definite practical proposals that can be started *now*. They are not content to let our citizens suffer while they wait for that millenium when industry will have absorbed its own unemployed; or when we shall have achieved the doubtful blessings of a socialist state. No woman who *has* suffered herself from unemployment, or from that of her husband, her father, or her children, can forget the dark days of seeking for work that could never be found.

Liberals realise that it is not only wages that men and women demand, but they demand also a job to do, something to maintain their courage and self-respect.

Our policy is outlined in the already famous book "**We can conquer Unemployment.**"* For years Liberal leaders and economists have been working out schemes to develop our national resources,—road building, land drainage, electricity, etc. These schemes have been put before the nation by Mr. Lloyd George in a series of stirring speeches. Liberals have the foresight and determination to offer the unemployed real work:—to build houses, to clear slums, to improve roads, to increase the number of telephones and to develop the wealth producing resources of our nation.

The unemployed want work.

There is the work to be done.

Why pay men and women for enforced idleness?

HOW THE SCHEME WILL AFFECT WOMEN.

1. The wives of the unemployed will receive an increase of household incomes.

**Cassell's—price 6d.*

Women know how hardly the privations of unemployment fall on wives and daughters. It is they who scrape and go without things to try to make, "both ends meet." What a boon and a blessing it will be when the new employment gives a good regular wage once more—when women have enough to pay the bills, "to feed the family properly, and to go out shopping with a cheerful heart!"

2. It will provide well-paid work for large numbers of those women who are themselves unemployed or working short time.

At the end of February, 1929, there were (amongst insured workers) 256,585 women unemployed. There will be a direct demand for the services of women in connection with the extension of the electrical and telephone services; there will be increased employment for women through the demand for houses and house furnishing, and there will also be a growing demand for all kinds of clerical assistance.

3. The increased purchasing power will create more employment in all trades.

There will be a vastly increased demand for food, clothes, boots, and all those necessities of life that the unemployed have been unable to afford. This will mean more work in the retail shops and other distributive trades.

There are at present 36,630 women unemployed in the distributive trades.

THE OTHER PARTIES.

Neither the Conservative nor the Labour parties have constructive proposals for providing work for the men and women without jobs.

The Conservative Party have offered the unemployed the comfort of "sympathetic observation!"

The Labour Party have pointed out that in the ideal state there would be no unemployed! This is little comfort in the present crisis.

The Liberal Party alone has a practical policy which can be put into immediate operation.

The Liberal Party pledges itself to conquer unemployment. It is not a pledge given in a light-hearted manner. It is given by men who have held high positions of responsibility in the State. They have weighed their words, and they will stand by what they have said.

Happiness at Home

1. Housing.
2. Health.
3. The Rising Generation.
4. Cost of Living.
5. Economy.
6. Temperance.

Housing.

Next to the certainty of security from the terror of war, the health and happiness of the every day life of a woman is certainly more directly affected by the country's housing programme, than by any other part of our national policy.

The Need. Every woman knows from her practical knowledge how great is the need for more and better houses. It is estimated that if this need is to be met 575,000 houses must be built during the next two years. The London County Council alone has a waiting list of over 20,000 persons. Until adequate alternative accommodation is provided the tragedy of the slums will never be overcome.

The Liberal Answer: Liberals recognise the ideal that every man should, out of his wages, be able to pay an economic rent for his home without the need of subsidies. They realise that to-day the wages of a large part of the population are not sufficient to enable them to pay a rent that would render the building of new houses a business proposition.

POINTS FROM LIBERAL HOUSING POLICY.

1. The building of houses should be undertaken to meet the requirements of the slum dweller and unskilled worker who can only afford to pay a very low gross rent per week.
2. Many existing houses should be reconditioned for those slum dwellers who must live near their work.

3. Consideration should be given to the most economical use of the subsidies. It is possible that this may be achieved by a system of rent allowances for children which will bring the houses within the means of those with the greatest needs.

4. Rural Areas. Here the shortage of houses is acute. Even the system of subsidies (without the Conservative reduction) has been unable to provide cottages at a rent that could be afforded by an agricultural labourer whose present average weekly wage is 31s. 8d.

The necessary subsidies should, therefore, be somewhat larger in rural than in urban areas.

Small two-roomed cottages should be erected for Old Age Pensioners and single occupiers in order to set free the larger cottages for those with families.

5. A Scientific programme of housing construction would go far towards solving the problem of unemployment.

There are at present more persons unemployed in the building industry than in any other British industry except coal mining.

THE CONSERVATIVE CLAIM.

The Conservatives do not offer a constructive policy for the future, but complacently reiterate the number of houses already built. What comfort is it to a woman who for the lack of a house has waited five years to get married; or who has nursed her husband delirious with pneumonia

In a damp infested basement, to be offered the comfortless figures of the number of houses already built? Her question must be, "But the need is still great, who will meet it?" And the answer of the Conservatives has been:—

(a) Consistently to oppose all enterprise by the State for the provision of new houses.

(b) To reduce the housing subsidy in 1927 by £1 10s. and to promise an additional cut in 1929 on the grounds that it decreases the price of building.

But the decrease in price is unfortunately occasioned by a reduction in demand because those who need houses are unable to pay the economic rent of the unsubsidised houses. Liberals realise that the primary problem to be faced is not the price, but the number of houses built. The figures show that the cut in the subsidy has been accompanied immediately by a disastrous fall in the output of houses:—

Year ending		Houses Built.
September 30th, 1927—	—	212,916
September 30th, 1928...	—	101,791

This illustrates the fact that the Conservative Government's contribution towards meeting the housing need has been to halve the rate of the construction of dwellings.

Health.

We rejoice to-day that every mother and child receives benefits that have come to be accepted as an essential part of our national life; but these things that we now regard as social justice only came into being through the courageous vision of a Liberal Party that was prepared before such ideas were fashionable, to fight for them in the face of loud spoken contempt and criticism.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

It is to the victorious struggle of the Liberals against the violent opposition of the Conservatives, that we owe this whole system. In 1911 Mr. Lloyd George courageously piloted through Parliament the first Insurance Act giving medical treatment to contributors and maternity benefit for mothers.

The time has come for consideration to be given to the development of the health insurance system in order to provide medical benefit for the family. An extension might have been possible to-day had not Mr. Winston Churchill raided the insurance surplus.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Under the pre-war Liberal Government, the number of Health Visitors was largely increased, an important development which has done much to improve the health of the nation.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The Liberal Education Act of 1906 established medical inspection of school children. Sir George Newman (Chief

Medical Officer of the Board of Education) says, "*such defects as ringworm, rickets, spinal curvature and malnutrition which were only too common in the days before the school medical service, have now either disappeared or are very seldom met with.*"

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The attention paid to Infant Welfare is one of the most important health developments of recent years, and the Liberal Party was the pioneer in making Government grants to the newly started voluntary Infant welfare centres. As early as 1911, the first grant was made towards the care of infants and expectant mothers. In 1914, Sir Herbert Samuel, then President of the Local Government Board, secured a grant of 50% on the expenditure of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

In 1918, a Liberal Minister of Health brought in the Maternity and Child Welfare Act which fixed these services as a definite part of the work of every local authority and provided that they should be adequately financed by receiving a direct Exchequer grant of 50% on all expenditure. The Act also gives, in its permissive clauses, very wide powers to local authorities to provide for the needs of a woman who is expecting a child. The local authority has power to see that (1) no "necessitous" woman lacks proper attention at the time of her confinement. (2) that adequate and efficient medical and surgical service is provided, free of cost if she cannot afford to pay for them, (3) that proper food be supplied for three months before birth, and nine months after to any needy mother, (4) that the fee of the midwife shall be paid if the mother cannot afford to pay it herself, (5) that "home helps" are provided.

As a consequence of the legislation inaugurated by a Liberal Government, the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres which numbered 160 in 1914 have now increased to 2,500.

BUT THE NEED IS STILL GREAT.

The Infant Death rate, although considerably reduced by these services is still 65 per 1,000 births (the lowest figure recorded last year).

The Maternal death Rate. For every 250 births, there is a sacrifice of one mother's life. The percentage of deaths among mothers is as high as it was 20 years ago. This is a disgrace in an age of wider medical knowledge.

Health of young children. 25% of the children who enter school are handicapped in their start in life through suffering from some physical defect.

THE CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDE.

Mr. Baldwin has made numerous speeches deploring the high rate of maternal mortality. No one will deny that he is sincere, but in view of his declarations, it is difficult to understand why the Conservative Party:—

- 1. Cut down the grant to Local Authorities for the supply of milk to necessitous mothers.**

2. Inserted a clause in the Local Government Bill abolishing the percentage grant ear-marked for expenditure on Maternity and Child Welfare work and substituted a general block grant to be paid to Local Authorities part of which is to be spent on Maternity and Child Welfare work.

The Centres will therefore have to compete against other claims on local expenditure such as fire engines, or new libraries.

The Conservatives claim that the Health services will be better carried out under a block grant system. But in reply to a charge made in the House of Commons that County Councils would neglect rural roads, the answer was given that this was not so, because "they would still receive the stimulus of a percentage grant." If the upkeep of roads is to be stimulated by a percentage grant, then why does not Infant Welfare work deserve the same stimulus? Liberals do not consider that babies are less important than roads!

THE LIBERAL ANSWER.

Liberals point out the fact that under the percentage grant the infant death rate has been halved and from the years 1910—1927, the lives of 37,000 babies have been saved. Surely the Conservatives cannot claim that the saving of these lives is extravagant expenditure?

Speaking in March 20th, 1929, Sir Herbert Samuel said,

"I greatly regret that under the Local Government Bill, which is now passing through Parliament, this 50 per cent. grant, which I had established, is to be merged in the general block grant that is to be given to Local Authorities in aid of their total expenditure. All the principal women's organizations in the country have protested against this, including the National Council of Women. The Government have turned a deaf ear to those protests. If experience shows that our fears are realized and that the change detracts from efficiency, and hinders the extension of these institutions, it must unhesitatingly be reversed."

Steps should also be taken to introduce into Parliament measures compelling local authorities to provide effective maternity services including ante-natal observation, nursing by skilled midwives' and post-natal supervision.

The Rising Generation.

EDUCATION.

The Liberal Party regards each child as a future citizen. It holds steadfastly to the principle that every child should have equal scope and opportunity to develop its character and natural talents, and will therefore be no party to the starvation of, or to false economies in, education.

In 1870 Liberals by the first Education Act gave to every child the right to go to school. Later Liberal Ministers of Education have added to this structure. It is to Liberals we owe the provision of school meals, special schools for crippled and defective children and the school medical service.

In 1918 the Coalition Government, with a Liberal Prime Minister and a Liberal (Mr. H. A. L. Fisher) at the Board of Education, gave us the charter of national education known as the Fisher Act.

This Act abolished half-time education under 14, entirely re-organised educational finance and increased the powers of the local education authorities. Under its influence, and more especially under the improved financial position, very considerable educational advance has been made, despite the traditional Conservative lack of enthusiasm for popular education. There is a great increase in the number of secondary schools, and an improvement in school buildings. School children can no longer be employed for long hours before and after lessons.

The Conservative Government have given little stimulus or encouragement to local authorities to carry out the provisions of the Act. The Economy Act of 1926 was aimed at the Health and Education Services and took power to refuse any expenditure on education which the Board considered excessive. This is not "economy" in the sense that Liberals understand it.

Two of the most useful parts of the Fisher Act are not yet in working order.

x. The provision of Nursery Schools.

At present, through bad housing and the need of mothers to add to the small family income by going out to work, numbers of children come to school at the age of five suffering from physical handicaps through want of skilled supervision. There is a bad gap between the infant and the school child, which the nursery school should fill.

x. The provision for part time continuation education.

Until we realise that we are wasting many of the millions we now spend upon education, by turning the child adrift at the age of fourteen, the age when he so especially needs steady help and guidance, we have failed as educationalists.

LIBERAL POLICY.

(a) Suitable provision for the children under school age must be made.

(b) Improvements must be made in school buildings.

(c) Classes must be reduced in size in order that the infinite variety of the needs of the children may be individually dealt with.

Liberals are opposed to the present policy of the Board of Education in pressing for a reduction of the staff in those places where classes have been below the regulation number.

(d) The process of re-organising elementary education by the provision for children of 11 and upwards of a greater variety of schools should be continued.

(e) To make this possible the school leaving age should as soon as conditions permit, be raised to 15 with maintenance grants where necessary.

(f) A steady increase in the provision of secondary school places.

(g) A development of technical education.

(h) Systematic provision should be made for part-time education up to 18, and out of work allowances to juveniles should be made conditional (wherever possible) upon attendance at courses to be provided by Education Authorities.

Liberals deplore the action of the present Government in the Economy Bill, 1926, of the reduction of the grants to higher education by £70,000 a year.

The financial changes under the de-rating provisions of the Local Government Act rushed through Parliament by the present Conservative Government are a grave threat to Education and it is probable that Education finance will be seriously affected.

More than 93% of the children of this country pass through the elementary schools; it is with them that the future of the nation lies and they shall not, through false economy, be denied the educational opportunities open to the children of the well-to-do.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

"We believe that no system of education can be satisfactory that does not provide for the age of adolescence; that the present lack of physical, mental, moral and social training during the 14—18 period prejudices our future as a nation."
(Liberal Yellow Book "Britain's Industrial Future.")

At the immature age of 14, young persons are released from all restrictions and are thrown on the labour market to work all hours at a time of their life when they most need proper rest and proper leisure for the development of health and character and at a time when industry cannot find employment for its adult workers.

In regulated trades the legal maximum for young persons in factories is still 66 and 68 hours a week, in shops 74 hours a week.

In offices and warehouses, as messengers and van-boys, in hotels and clubs, there are no restrictions on the hours for young persons. A boy may work in a garage from 8 a.m. to midnight.

These conditions leave no time or energy for any further education, nor for any form of recreation.

These young people should still be regarded as preparing themselves for their future work.

To make continued education possible a legal maximum working week must be enacted for all young persons between the ages of 14 and 18.

Cost of Living.

"Give us a good digestion Lord, but also something to digest." Even with a nice house and with health to enjoy it, happiness in the home will be incomplete if through the continuation of the present system of taxation the cost of living rises until we can afford nothing to digest.

Under the influence of their curious delusion that the way to improve trade is to tax as many as possible of the articles we buy, the Conservative Government seems specially to have singled out for tariffs articles of prime concern to women. They commenced with silk, not only real silk that might be regarded as a semi-luxury, but also artificial silk and everything made thereof.

They followed this by a duty on lace and embroidery, with the result that from the silk on her hat band, down to the minute quantities of silk sewings in her shoes and slippers, the woman is taxed on nearly every part of her dress. She is taxed from head to foot.

There is a tax on:—

light leather gloves	gas mantles
fabric gloves	wrapping paper
breakfast crockery	scissors and pen knives
stew pans and saucepans	dolls' clothes, and
cheap alarm clocks (which	all kinds of toys for
are not made in England	the nursery
at all)	gramophones
watches	buttons

There is an attempt now to put a tax on woollen and worsted dress fabrics unless this is prevented by the General Election.

If the Conservatives are returned to power, still more articles will be taxed, for Mr. Baldwin has announced that he is going to alter the rules and make them easier so that still more industries can obtain tariffs.

Amongst the first to be served will be those industries turned down under the present rules. This will mean **new taxes** on:—

Brooms and brushes	leather handbags
aluminium cooking utensils	purses
attaché cases	children's satchels

The duty on **china crockery** will be extended to **earthenware** and there will probably be a tax on **cheap cotton underwear, stockings** and **children's socks**, to say nothing of **pins, hooks and eyes**.

Furniture will come next and there will soon be very little left amongst the articles that are required for clothing the family or making the home comfortable **which will not be taxed in this tariff ramp, and is nothing but a system of sectional bribes at the expense of the community as a whole**. And as the government insist that there shall be no tax on food stuffs, the farmer and agricultural labourer who will receive no dole, will have to pay more for all those things that they want for their homes.

It is absurd to suggest that all these taxes can be collected (millions of pounds per year already) without in any way affecting the family budget. Every woman knows that a little here and a little there soon mounts up

The shop-keepers cannot afford to pay these taxes for us. They must pass them on to the consumer in some form, either by increasing the price, or by keeping the price up when it ought to fall, or by selling a cheaper quality article for the price of a better one.

And all these taxes are so much grit in the wheels of trade, just when we so badly need them to turn faster.

Economy.

It is difficult to realise the enormous increase which has taken place in public expenditure since the war and to understand how individuals would benefit from a policy of strict economy because an annual expenditure by the State of £742,000,000 can have little reality for a family living on £2 a week.

But it has always been a cardinal principle of Liberal policy that wise and frugal expenditure and a determination to use public money to the public advantage and not for particular interests, will especially benefit the poorest homes in the country.

Higher taxation inevitably damages trade. A rich man pays for this in decreased dividends but the poor man pays for it in unemployment. There can be no doubt that the latter pays the heavier price.

In the same way indirect taxation falls much more heavily on the poor man than the rich. For instance a family of five persons using an average amount of sugar would pay £2 a year to the Treasury as a result of the tax on sugar. During the last five years of the Conservative Government £38,000,000 of indirect taxation has been imposed. Having added so enormously to the burden of taxation, it was not very difficult to take off just one little tax—the tea tax!

The Liberal policy of economy is:—

(1) To reduce the total amount spent.

(2) To see that what is spent, is spent well, and that economies are not made at the expense of the health and education of the people, but by attacking waste, by abolishing unfair doles to favoured industries, and by reducing excessive expenditure on armaments.

Temperance.

In its desire to promote all these things that build up the home, the Liberal Party is not afraid to face the question of Temperance. Every woman feels that the household budgets cannot afford to spend £288,200,000 sterling per year on strong drink.

The drink trade at each election reckons to spend large sums in the constituencies in procuring the return to Parliament, not of those who will best serve the nation, or who represent their constituents, but of those who will promote the interests of the Trade.

The Conservative Party have consistently opposed proposals for Temperance reform. Lord Astor says, *"Traditionally, the Conservative Party has been the brewers' party; officially, its policy still is usually against proposals for reforms which are disliked by the Trade."*

The Labour Party has merely promised to appoint a Royal Commission on the question. This is a weak way of postponing a declaration until an indefinite date. This failure to face the problem is "timidity amounting to cowardice."

The attitude of Labour to Temperance legislation was illustrated in 1924 by the rejection through Labour votes of the Temperance proposals put forward by Welsh Liberal members.

Mr. Clynes, Labour M.P., speaking at a luncheon of the Manchester Drink Retailers' Association, stated that £780,000,000 had been collected since the War in the taxation of drink, *"I think,"* said he, *"it cannot be denied that this strongly condemned commodity has rendered some service to the State."*

Yes! But at the cost of the ruin of how many homes and how many lives? And this from a member of the party that claims to have an exclusive monopoly in understanding the lives of the people! Mr. Clynes knows that the tax on drink comes out of the pockets of the people.

If excessive drink were not consumed there would be less need for public money to be spent on prisons, workhouses and poor-relief; there would be far more private money to be spent on food and clothes and furniture and other productive industries.

THE LIBERAL POLICY.

Liberals stand for Local Option. Local Option gives citizens of a locality the right to decide for themselves the drink facilities in their own area.

Scotland has already adopted this policy.

Liberals have always stood for the greatest possible measure of individual liberty for every citizen, but to offer excessive temptation to drink is a tyranny that has caused the suffering of thousands of women and children.

Woman as a Wage-Earner.

EQUAL PAY.

Women hold the vote on equal terms with men. The acceptance of the principle of equal pay for equal work follows as a natural corollary.

Women do not ask for equal pay for different work, nor for work that is not comparable; but they do ask that payment should be based on the nature of the work and not on the sex of the worker.

The injustices are particularly glaring in the case of women employed in the Civil Service, the teaching profession and under municipal and local authorities.

In the **Civil Service** there are grades in which a post may be filled irrespectively by a man or a woman, but the payment of women is based on a different and lower scale.

In the **Teaching Profession** the Burnham scales for men and women are different. Women with the same academic qualifications, the same length of service and the same skill in teaching, receive a different scale of pay.

This differentiation is also marked in appointments under local authorities.

In the words of the late Lord Oxford, "The Liberal Party aims at political, legal and economic equality between men and women."

Immediate consideration should be given to the practical application of the principle of Equal Pay: how to secure a basic wage as the reward for equal work irrespectively of sex, and then how to devise a means of providing for family responsibilities. Whether this should be achieved through a system of family allowances or otherwise, is a matter for consideration.

Proof of Good Faith.

It must never be forgotten that it is to the foresight and courage of the Liberal Party that the country owes all those great social measures without which the workers of this country would have been unable to endure the hard times following the war. Without these measures the country would undoubtedly have been plunged into the terrors and misery of civil riots during the last few years.

The Liberal Party introduced the following Acts:—

Unemployment Insurance in 1909.

The whole system of Health Insurance by the National Health Insurance Act, 1911.

Provision for old age by the Old Age Pensions Act, 1908.

It is easy to-day to grant Widows' Pensions, when the principle of State Pensions has already been established. It must never be forgotten that when the Liberals proposed the Old Age Pensions Act only 11 Conservatives voted in favour of it.

The right of workers to compensation for accidents at their work, by the Employers' Liability Act, 1880.

The Trade Boards Act, 1909, by which was established the first legal minimum wage in sweated and unregulated trades.

The Act that gave to the people the first legal half holiday.

This record of practical achievement offers a guarantee for the good faith of the Liberal Party in its determination to fulfil its promise for the future. Time and experience have proved these measures to be wise. Is it not possible that in the same wisdom lies the constructive policy that Liberalism offers for the present?

The Conservatives oppose and ridicule every constructive measure until the reforms are carried in spite of them. They then adopt them, build on them and claim the whole credit for themselves.

The Labour Party offer us a theory, nothing for our comfort; and they are not even agreed amongst themselves what the theory should be. Nationalisation? We ask the meaning and Mr. MacDonald answers that nationalisation does not mean what Mr. Baldwin thinks it does. Hardly a helpful definition!

Liberals "believe with a passionate faith that the end of all political and economic action is . . . that men and women may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." They will strive in the future as in the past, by all practical means, to attain these ends."

An Acknowledgment to all Women.

The Conservatives appeal to women on the grounds that they are the party which granted what they contemptuously term "the flapper vote."

This was not the willing concession of any party, it was the gift of women to women. In 1918 the first Act to enfranchise women was passed in a parliament with a Liberal Prime Minister and a large Liberal majority. But the Liberal Party recognise that women won the vote through their self-sacrifice and determination. They owe too great a respect to those women who fought for the cause, to claim the ultimate victory as a feather in any party cap.

Final Word.

Liberals claim the votes of the women of Great Britain. The Liberal Party has experience of Government. The Liberal Party has eminent leaders—men and women—of wide knowledge and great gifts. Liberals are practical politicians, able to guide the country through difficult years.

In the words of Sir Herbert Samuel:—

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From the Liberal Publication Department, 42, Parliament Street, London, S.W.1.

Published for the Women's National Liberal Federation, 1, Gt. George Street, Westminster, S.W.1., by the Liberal Publication Dept., 42, Parliament Street, London, S.W.1. Printed by Wadsworth and Co., The Rydal Press, Keighley.

